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Attorney's Docket No.: 081862.P072

Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of )

David A. Hughes et al. )

Examiner: A. Hsu

Application No. 08/825,492 )

Art Unit: 2738

Filing Date: March 28, 1997 )

For: SCHEME FOR MERGING PARTIALLY FILLED ATM CELLS )

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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MAY 30 2000  
TC 2700 MAIL ROOM

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE -- ART UNIT 2738

Sir:

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. The Final Office action of February 28, 2000, ignores amendments previously set forth in a Preliminary Amendment filed December 14, 1999, and continues to maintain rejections of the claims that are unsupported both in law and by the cited prior art. A new, non-final action is required, indicating the allowability of the present claims.

**A. Summary**

The present invention concerns a scheme for merging information from two or more partially filled ATM cells into a single ATM cell. For example, first and second partially filled ATM cells may be removed from a cell stream and their payload information combined into a third

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